Remarks

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3, 6

and 7.

A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith. However, the World

Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent

Office.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the

WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered

into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the

above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this

communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No.

30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

23552

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Dated: March 22, 2005

uglas P. Mueller

Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/acp

5